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Annual Report

— OF THE —

TOWN * OFFICERS

— OF —

WALPOLE, N. H.,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1ST, 1886.

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BELLOWS FALLS, VERMONT.
LIVERMORE BROS., STEAM PRINTING OFFICE.
1886.

Annual Report

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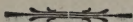
WALPOLE, N. H.,

FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 1ST, 1886.



BELLOWS FALLS, VERMONT.
LIVERMORE BROS., STEAM PRINTING OFFICE.
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SELECTMEN'S * REPORT.



Valuation of the town of Walpole, as appraised by the Selectmen, April 1, 1885, for the purpose of taxation.

Value of Real Estate,	\$982,998 00
“ 586 Polls,	58,600 00
“ 510 Horses,	35,742 00
“ 110 Oxen,	7,742 00
“ 675 Cows,	21,368 00
“ 388 Other Cattle,	8,940 00
“ 8546 Sheep,	22,816 00
“ 81 Hogs,	682 00
“ 15 Carriages,	1,302 00
“ Stock in public fund,	16,500 00
“ Stock in banks,	35,950 00
“ stock in corporation,	1,000 00
“ stock in trade,	21,874 00
“ money on hand,	178,522 00
“ toll bridge,	10,000 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,404,036 00

Taxes Assessed for the following Appropriations, Voted March 10, 1885.

State tax,	\$2,964 00
County tax,	2,230 00
Support of schools,	3,500 00
For other town purposes,	1,306 00
	<hr/>
	\$10,000 00
Amount of taxes on dogs,	146 00

District Taxes Assessed.

School District No. 1,	\$700 00
“ “ 2,	125 00
“ “ 3,	30 00
“ “ 4,	50 00
Village precinct,	150 00

Orders Drawn for Payment of Town Officers.

Henry E. Putnam, selectman,	95 00
John W. Prentiss, Jr., collector of taxes,	90 00
Abel P. Richardson, town clerk,	50 00
Curtis R. Crowell, selectman,	168 00
Curtis R. Crowell, superintendent school committee,	20 00
Leonard B. Holland, selectman,	168 00
George Aldrich, superintendent school committee	100 00
Thomas B. Buffum, treasurer,	25 00
	<hr/>
	\$716 00

Town Paupers.

F. A. Lebourveau, teams to Calvin Graves' funeral,	\$ 2 00
G. D. Hooper, wood for Mrs. Burnham,	1 25
R. S. Blanchard, services as sexton in burying	
Calvin Graves,	3 00
Geo. A. Blake, medical attendance on Calvin Graves,	5 00
F. G. Pierce, clothes for E. E. Stowell,	9 75
A. P. Richardson, examination of Andrew Weber,	2 50
Warren Chapin, expense of transportation,	
Andrew Weber to Concord,	26 50
Perry & Porter, goods for Mrs. Burnham,	3 42
Wm. J. Hall, burial casket for Calvin Graves,	15 00
C. H. Graves, support of Mrs. Burnham,	12 96
John E. Hartwell, board and care of Calvin Graves,	20 57
Chas. W. Chickering, “ “	125 00
Levi A. Ross, support of, and moving E. E. Stowell,	77 75
Cheshire County, board of Chas. Farnsworth	78 00
Andrew Webster, support of Carrie Weber,	102 00
	<hr/>
	\$484.70

County Paupers.

Wm. W. Warn, board and care of Elizabeth Warn,	\$ 82 50
Henry E. Putnam, support and moving Trotter family to Canada,	21 55
Sullivan & Conway, goods for Mrs. Trotter,	35 44
“ “ “ “ Delany,	104 92
Richard Knapp, support of Phebe Dodge,	96 14
Winslow B. Porter, medical attendance on Wm. Evans,	2 80
F. A. Lebourveau, carrying L. Mansfield to County farm,	4 00
Chas. Russell, provision for E. Bixby,	2 27
Perry & Porter, goods for “	38 25
James Drislane, rent “ “	8 00
Geo. H. Gassett, support of Phillip Thomas,	14 00
A. F. Nims, wood for Jerry Dolan,	3 25
	<hr/>
	\$413 00

Books, Stationery and Printing.

Livermore Brothers, printing town report and notices,	32 15
T. B. Buffum, stationery,	2 75
Abel P. Richardson “	2 50
G. P. Porter, “	40
G. H. Tilden, town order book,	5 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 42 80

Walpole and Westminster Bridge.

Frank Spaulding, lighting bridge,	18 00
O. W. Rogers, labor, 1884,	2 50
David N. Wright, snowing bridge,	10 00
G. P. Porter, spikes,	36
L. G. & C. E. Howard, lantern for bridge,	3 00
Leonard S. Cady, labor, 1884,	3 75
Addison Miller “	50
D. M. Pollard, oil for lighting bridge,	6 22
	<hr/>
	\$ 44 33

Breaking Roads, 1884-5.

Martin Buss,	\$ 6 10
Chas. Gates,	25 00
James Selkirk,	15 30
John W. Hayward, Jr.	1 00
Isaac P. Pratt,	26 40
Geo. W. Goodwin,	5 77
Geo. H. Gassett,	23 02
Harvey A. Carr,	3 53
Perry Watkins,	5 25
Elmore E. Merriam,	34.37
Herbert H. Thompson,	5 15
Frank. P. Allen,	24 05
Robt. Cochran,	16 95
Joseph Kidder,	36 00
Haskell C. Towne,	26 50
Wm. E. Roy,	5 40
Harding Ball,	20 85
John W. Taggard,	6 50
Chas. Stowell,	3 50
O. J. Hubbard,	2 18
Chas. A. Watkins,	7 70
Patrick Carroll,	6 25
Thos. Taunt,	6 60
Moses Elliott,	9.00
Alfred Watkins,	2 00
William Hall,	3 00
Warren N. Wilber,	3 00
Edwin E. Webster,	17 00
Eli W. Graves,	6 00
Oliver Hall,	29 70
Chas. S. Burt,	5 70
John W. Graves,	4 00
Albert Gilson,	8 74
Henry Allen & Son,	28 23

C. H. Graves,	4 20
O. E. Smalley,	6 55
Rufus Leonard,	50

\$441 04

Extra Work on Highway, 1884.

Martin Buss, use of scraper, and labor,	\$ 23 73
O. W. Rogers, labor,	1 00
O. H. Perry Watkins, labor,	7 20
Elmore E. Merriam, labor,	31 42
Harding Ball, labor,	7 05
John W. Taggard, maintaining water cistern on highway,	1 50
Chas. Stowell, labor,	10 25
Patrick Carroll, labor,	3 12
Alfred Watkins,	4 00
James Sullivan, Dist. No. 14, labor,	6 87
Jonathan Putney, labor,	10 46
Warren N. Wilber, labor,	2 20
John W. Graves, labor,	1 12
Matthew Tole, maintaining water cistern on highway,	2 50
Henry E. Putnam, labor,	3 16
C. H. Graves, labor,	6 50

\$122 08

Highways, 1885,

Geo. Parkinson, labor, and cashpaid out,	\$ 66 75
Amos Gale, " "	135 36
John Tole, " "	56 20
Isaac P. Pratt, " "	64 40
Chas. Gates, " "	7 50
Thos. Murray, " "	12 77
Wm. Hall, " "	40 00
John W. Prentiss, Jr. " "	79 75
Chas. A. Watkins, " "	57 80

Jonathan Putney, labor,	\$22 50
Authur Wells, "	8 75
Thomas Griffin, "	7 75
Patrick Carrol, "	39 30
Rosaloo A. Howard, labor and gravel,	34 65
Haskell C. Towne, labor, and cash paid out,	45 00
Leonard S. Cady, labor and clay,	5 80
Henry Dodge, labor,	72 00
Fred W. Turner, labor,	20 25
Martin J. Buss, labor and gravel,	28 95
Thos. Taunt, labor,	7 00
Thos. C. Sparhawk, labor,	39 90
Wm. E. Roy, labor, and cash paid out,	34 00
James Dorney, labor,	14 25
Chas. C. Worcester, labor, and cash paid out,	56 62
S. H. Spafford, labor,	5 75
Herbert J. Watkins, labor, and cash paid out,	17 50
Thos. Garrity, labor	2 82
Joseph Blodgett, labor,	10 00
Alfred Watkins, labor, and cash paid out,	25 75
Edward Watkins, " "	16 50
Wm. T. Ramsey, " "	17 25
Nelson C. Smith, " "	62 20
Oliver Hall, " "	81 70
Dennis Phelps, " "	5 00
Thos. McDonald, " "	3 37
John W. Graves, " "	44 60
Dolphus Booth, " "	12 30
John C. Brown, labor and gravel,	50 00
S. H. Porter, labor,	7 43
John W. Hayward, labor,	2 50
Albert Gilson, labor,	30 00
Asahel Kingston, labor, and cash paid out,	24 59
James Bunting, "	3 15
John W. Taggard, "	2 75
Chas. Stowell, "	8 35

Joseph Plastridge, labor,	\$ 85
F. H. Holland, "	7 05
Joseph Kidder, "	6 60
Bart Kiniry, "	17 20
Moses Elliott, "	2 50
Henry A. Clough, "	1 25
Henry E. Putnam, labor, and cash paid out,	17 05
Carlos Dunshee, labor,	5 25
Horace Hall, labor,	3 00
Addison Miller, labor,	6 00
C. H. Graves, labor,	1 50
Geo. Jennings, labor,	5 00
Walker, Dewey, Blake & Co. labor and cash,	40 00
John Harty, Jr. labor,	90
R. S. Blanchard, labor,	20 30
Geo. Angier, labor,	1 25
Oliver J. Hubbard, labor,	1 75
Thos. Felch, labor,	1 50
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	\$1,529 71

Building and Repairing Bridges and Putting up Railings.

Elmore E. Merriam, labor,	5 35
G. P. Porter, goods and oil,	1 75
John Tole, labor,	3 50
Levi Burt, bridge plank and covering stone,	31 23
Wm. Hall, building stone bridge Dist. No. 10 and other labor,	53 25
Chas. B. Hall, bridge plank, 1884 and 1885, and labor	48 17
Wm. E. Roy, putting up railing,	4 50
Jerome Lebourveau, laying stone on bridge in Dist. No. 10,	12 00
Eli W. Graves, drawing bridge plank,	1 00
Curtis J. Fletcher, chestnut for bridge,	25 00
John W. Marshall, labor,	6 75
Joseph Schneff, stone for bridge, Dist. No. 10,	10 00

Isaac P. Pratt, putting up railing,	\$12 00
A. A. Gilson, labor,	5 25
Mrs. Chandler, boarding workman,	17 50
Asahel Kingsbury, labor and chestnut for bridge,	17 00
Joslyn and Graves, chestnut for bridge,	6 00
Alfred Watkins, putting up railings,	5 50
John W. Prentiss, J., drawing bridge plank,	
labor, and cash paid out,	24 55
Chas. A. Watkins, labor and timber,	17 03
E. A. Watkins, labor,	16 50
Horace Hall, " and timber,	5 00
H. J. Watkins " " cash paid out,	72 50
H. Allen & Son, lumber,	2 23
J. K. Sterling, drain tile,	12 24
C. H. Graves, bridge timber,	9 75
J. C. Brown, labor and sand,	60 00
Moses Hale, labor,	2 25
A. C. Dickey, covering stone and plank,	3 04
Geo. R. Jennison, plank,	6 75
Chas. Stowell, labor,	4 00
A. F. Nims, plank,	90
Geo. Angier, labor,	50
Andrew Roy, labor,	50
Solomon Ballam, labor,	77 00
Thos. Murrey, " "	51 37
Chas. Gates, " "	12 00
Warren Jennison, " "	54 75
Geo. Parkinson, drawing stone,	18 50
C. Harty, labor,	39 00
A. Felch, " "	19 50
F. A. Lebourveau, drawing stone,	4 00
R. A. Howard, drawing stone,	17 85
John Harty, Jr., labor,	23 55
H. Johnson, " "	23 25
Thos. Griffin, " "	54 75
J. W. Estabrook, drawing stone,	45 00

Dennis Griffin, labor,	\$ 43 05
Mrs. Farnsworth, stone,	9 50
Fall Mountain Paper Co., spruce lumber,	13 00
Cheshire Railroad, freight on stone and cement,	71 31
B. E. Webster, drawing dirt,	25 50
T. C. Sparhawk, labor,	16 50
Geo. Holden, stone,	15 00
Saml. Bradford, "	25 00
Peter Reynolds, damage done stone boat,	2 00
Warren Colburn, labor,	1 25
D. H. Reed, granite,	106 43
Thos. Walsh, blacksmithing,	28 20
L. G. & C. E. Howard, tile and cement,	204 41
E. K. Seabury, lumber,	8 37
R. S. Blanchard, labor,	15 00
Pat. Carroll, "	5 00
F. W. Turner, "	11 00
C. C. Worcester, "	10 50
Alfred Watkins, "	10 00
S. H. Porter, "	2 10
J. W. Taggard, "	7 00
Bart Reardy, "	39 38
Chas. Knapp, "	2 00
Jeremiah Leach, " and use of derrick,	166 75
Frank Gordon, "	33 75
Elijah Bosby, "	62 50
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	\$1,878 87

Town House.

O. W. Rogers, repairing bell,	\$ 2 50
C. R. Crowell, wood for town house,	10 60
J. K. Sterling, labor, stove pipe and oil,	8 15
Wm. Arnold, wood for town house,	7 00
G. P. Porter, goods,	40
Oliver Fisher, decorating for Grant Memorial,	5 00

E. A. Watkins, labor,	\$ 2 50
Perry and Porter, goods furnished,	8 61

\$ 34 86

Cemetery.

G. P. Porter, goods,	3 80
R. S. Blanchard, mowing and raking,	30 00
A. T. Gay, labor on cemetery at Drewsville,	9 75
Pat. Carroll, " " "	3 00
F. D. Messer, pickets for fence, "	28 00
Chas. A. Witt, repairs on cemetery, "	119 46
H. Allen & Son, breaking roads in cemetery,	5 00
" strap for hearse,	1 00

\$200 01

Precinct.

Wm. Hall, 1st engineer,	\$150 00
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Abatement of Taxes.

B. E. Webster, dog tax,	1 00
J. Buffum, tax on land sold,	7 56
Thos. Tole, error in appraisal,	81
Chas. Knapp, dog tax,	1 00
J. W. Prentiss, Jr, collector of taxes, 1883,	14 36
" " " 1884,	63 02
C. R. Crowell, " " 1885,	32 00

\$119 75

Town Library.

Waldo F. Hayward, for library committee, (see report of library committee)	230 00
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Sheep Killed by Dogs.

Chas. A. Jennings,	8 20
John W. Prentiss, Jr.,	3 50
Chas. A. Watkins,	4 00
Wm. T. Ramsey,	23 00

\$38 70

Expense of Schools.

Town appropriations for schools,	\$3,500 00	
Literary fund from state,	237 29	
		<hr/>
		\$3,737 29
Schools, (18) drew \$100 each,	1,800 00	
Scholars, (480) drew \$4 036 each,	1,937 29	
		<hr/>
		\$3,737 29

See report of school committee.

Police, 1884-5.

H. F. Chandler,	\$ 5 00
W. P. Chapin,	32 00
Geo. F. Burt,	43 00
O. W. Rogers,	5 00
Wm. Hall,	4 00
Chas. Russell,	4 00
John Fitzgerald, North Walpole,	52 80
James Hays, “	11 00
Edward Stapleton, “	11 00
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	\$167 80

Miscellaneous.

Jas. Selkirk, witness fee in case of Fletcher,	\$ 1 00
E. S. Albee, reporting births and deaths,	4 25
Cheshire Railroad, freight on road machine,	8 16
W. B. Porter, reporting births and deaths,	2 00
Bounty paid on woodchucks by selectmen,	70 60
Geo. Tyler, road scraper,	215 00
Geo. Tyler, blades for road scraper,	20 00
Chas. Roundy, repairs on road scraper,	4 30
Chas. Fisher, surveying highway and cemetery,	8 25
Bellows Falls Physicians, reporting births and deaths,	75
F. A. Lebourveau, drawing off Frenchman's horse,	1 50
Chas. Maynard, keeping tramps, 1884-5,	13 50
H. F. Frost, damage to team from defective highway,	2 50
C. H. Scovill, one-half expense of surveyor in	

running town line,	\$ 1 50
C. B. Crowell, discount on taxes, 1885.	349 50
Geo. A. Blake, reporting births and deaths,	2 75
Vincent Gosselin, reporting on births and deaths,	9 00
Chas. Hooper, land for cemetery,	50 00
J. G. Bellows, services, and cash paid out,	18 72
A. P. Richardson, reporting births and deaths,	3 00
“ “ “ “ to state,	23 50
E. R. Campbell, reporting births and deaths,	1 25
H. E. Putnam, use of team, and cash paid ont,	58 66
H. J. Watkins, “ “	41 25
J. W. Prentiss, Jr. “ “	61 31
Thos. Felch, amount due for care of town house,	4 70
J. C. Howard, drawing stone,	6 50
Wm. Hall, setting glass in hearse,	50
Geo. Holden, drawing tile in 1884,	1 50
R. L. Ball, insuring town library,	34 30
Cheshire County, expense of Keefe case,	35 00
John O'Connell, payment on house and lot,	75 00
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	\$1,129 57

Recapitulation.

Town Officers,	\$ 716 00
Town Paupers,	484 70
County Paupers,	413 12
Books, Stationary and Printing,	42 80
Walpole and Westminster Bridge,	44 33
Breaking Roads,	441 04
Extra work on Highway, 1884,	122 08
Highways, 1885,	1,529 71
Building and Repairing, and putting up Railings,	1,878 87
Town House,	34 86
Cemetery,	200 01
Precinct,	150 00
Abatement of taxes,	119 75
Town Library,	230 00

Sheep killed by dogs,	\$ 38 70
Expense of schools,	4,642 29
Police,	167 80
Miscellaneous,	1,129 50
	<hr/>
	\$12,385 63

Liabilities.

Due Treasurer,	\$1,478 90
Town Officers and other unpaid bills, estimated,	800 00
Floating orders,	638 85
	<hr/>
	\$2,917 75

Available Town Assets.

Due from County bills paid since October, 1885,	\$ 164 00
Amount paid on house of John O'Connell,	75 00
Value of road machine,	200 00
Taxes of 1884, uncollected,	813 00
Taxes of 1885, uncollected,	1,193 33
	<hr/>
	\$2,445 33

Present indebtedness of the town, \$472 42.

Estimate for 1886.

Town Paupers,	\$ 500 00
Building and repairing bridges,	1,800 00
Town Officers and Contingent Expenses,	1,500 00
Support of Schools,	3,000 00
Breaking Roads,	300 00
Town Library,	210 00
Police and Cemetery,	300 00
Highways, (paid in money)	1,500 00
State Tax,	2,964 00
County Tax,	2,053 00
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	\$14,127 00

Less Savings Bank and Railroad Tax,	\$2,408 00
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\$11,719 00

Respectfully submitted,

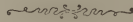
HENRY E. PUTNAM,	}	Selectmen of Walpole.
JOHN W. PRENTISS, JR,		
HERBERT J. WATKINS,		

Walpole, March 1st, 1886.



REPORT OF TOWN TREASURER

For the Year Ending March 1st, 1886.



Cash on hand March 1st, 1885,	\$ 196 23
Received of J. W. Prentiss, Jr. Col. of taxes for 1883	282 22
“ “ interest on same,	36 40
“ “ taxes for 1884,	1,103 47
“ “ interest on same,	50 00
“ Curtis R. Crowell, coll. taxes for 1885,	10,484 13
“ fine for trotting on bridge,	3 00
“ on highway book,	25 35
“ from County for paupers,	349 29
“ from County, bounty on woodchucks,	68 60
“ license on Pool Table,	20 00
“ from town of Charlestown, for the support of Mrs. Burnham,	17 63

Received from town of Westminster on bridge acct.	\$1115 76
“ from State for railroad tax,	502 12
“ from state for Savings Bank tax,	1,906 14
“ “ Literary Fund,	237 29
Cash due Treasurer,	1,478 90

\$16,876 53

Disbursements.

Paid town orders for 1883,	\$ 15 00
“ town orders for 1885,	11,759 38
“ county tax,	2,052 90
“ state tax,	2,964 00
“ interest,	85 25

\$16,876 53

T. B. BUFFUM, Treasurer.

The undersigned committee appointed to settle with the Selectmen and Treasurer, have examined their accounts, and find them well vouched and correctly cast.

CURTIS R. CROWELL	}	Auditors.
LEONARD B. HOLLAND,		
HORACE A. PERRY,		

REPORT OF TOWN LIBRARY COMMITTEE



Cash on hand as per last report,	\$ 2 67
Coal,	1 40
Received of librarian for fines and use of books,	21 00
Town appropriations,	230 00
	<hr/>
	\$255 07

Expenses.

Paid for books purchased,	126 47
Geo. H. Tilden, for binding and repairing books,	23 85
Wm. J. Hall, for framing Farmer's Museum,	1 60
Herbert J. Watkins, for shelves,	1 60
Express,	2 95
R. L. Ball, rent of room, fuel, light and services as librarian, from March 1st 1885, to March 1st 1886,	90 00
C. C. Davis' bill,	79
Cash on hand,	7 81
	<hr/>

\$255 07

Your committee report that our public library steadily increases, one hundred and thirty-six volumes have been added the past year. Mr. Henry G. Wheelock has given three volumes of the Century, and three volumes of English Magazines; Mrs. Harriet Bardwell has presented three volumes, all of which have been bound and placed on the shelves.

Your committee think that the suggestion they made last year as to the better care of the books by the patrons of

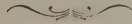
the library, has had a good effect, and we request all persons who have books from the library to take the best care of them. We have on our catalogue, 3110 volumes; there may be some missing, and some worn out; when we know that a book of real value is gone, it is replaced at once.

Your committee respectfully recommend and ask for an appropriation to meet the following estimates for the ensuing year.

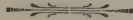
Room rent, fuel, lights and librarian,	\$ 90 00
Purchase of books,	100 00
Binding and repairing books,	20 00
	<hr/>
	\$ 210 00

Respectfully submitted,

W. F. HAYWARD,
L. B. HOLLAND.



REPORT OF TOWN Superintending School Committee.



The seventy-second annual report of the town superintending school committee is hereby submitted, it being the one hundred and fifteenth anniversary of the building of three school houses and the establishment of three school districts.* There is nothing new to mention, only one extra school has been maintained in North Walpole the past year, where the town will have to build a new school-house or put

*School districts were established by law in 1805.

an annex on the one now in use there. An extra appropriation will have to be made in the south-easterly part of the town for the comfort and convenience of school children there.

The town last March meeting raised the sum of \$3,500, this sum, together with the literary fund aggregates \$3,737 29, which sum was divided by giving each school, of which there are eighteen, \$100 in the first division, and the rest of the appropriation was drawn by each enrolled scholar. There were 480 scholars, each receiving \$4.036. Following is the number of scholars in each district and the distribution of the school money:

Dist.	No.	Scholars,	Amount, \$
1	- -	125	804 50
"	2 - - -	170	986 12
"	3 - - -	20	180 72
"	4 - - -	21	189 76
"	5 - - -	20	182 72
"	6 - - -	7	128 25
"	7 - - -	6	124 22
"	8 - - -	13	152 49
"	9 - - -	12	148 45
"	10 - - -	17	168 60
"	11 - - -	15	150 47
"	12 - - -	20	180 72
"	13 - - -	13	152 47
"	14 - - -	23	192 83
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480			\$3,737 29

Report of Summer Schools.

The summer schools include those taught during the summer months and those taught in the autumn. These schools were fifteen in number, taught by eighteen different teachers. Each of these schools had two terms, varying from eight to fifteen weeks, requiring, (according to law) sixty visits, fifty-nine of those visits were made by the senior member of the committee, who had the entire charge of all

the town schools during the summer season. Many of the teachers were quite young and inexperienced and a few were beginners. Nine were town residents who had received no instruction only that obtained from our common schools. Only one teacher failed of moderate success and that one succeeded well in another school. All made an effort to do well, but what can be expected of extreme youth and inexperience in imparting knowledge ?

The three schools in district No. 2, the Grammar, Middle and Primary were taught by Mr. John M. Reardon, Miss Lilla L. Phelps and Miss Hatty C. Riley, respectively. The teachers in the upper schools were shorn of perfect success by the prevailing absenteeism incident to those schools. It was ascertained that only seven-five per cent was obtained in each of these schools, while the per cent of attendance in the Primary school was about eighty-three. Miss Riley's school was kept in the basement of the Catholic church and numbered nearly sixty pupils most of the time. The school was visited four times during the season by the committee, and at each time the room was full of happy obedient children. They were very prompt in their recitations and in obeying all the requirements of their teacher. It will be enough to say of Miss Riley that she is the right person in the right place.

The school in No. 3, in charge of Miss Nellie M. Graves, was composed of a few small pupils. She filled her engagements with the district without a ripple of discord, and it is thought she taught a fair school, although she took no "new departure". The road she travelled was the old beaten path and more than one teacher continues to travel it.

The best that can be said of the first term of school in Dist. No. 4 is, it was not a complete failure. Of the many times we have visited that school in the last twenty-seven years its appearance was never more unsatisfactory. It is very difficult to say who or what was out of joint; but certainly something was. The fault was not wholly the

teacher's for her school in another district in the fall was considered a success. Mrs. Alfred Foster taught the fall term, and although she is a veteran teacher she failed to drag all her pupils from their lethargic condition—her time was too short. There was no specialty about the school to place it in the first rank, but it was a fair one.

Miss Winnie F. Watkins taught the school in No. 5 two terms, and although it was her first attempt at teaching and the school in her native town and in the same school-room where she got all her schooling, she succeeded well. The scholars in this district are very quiet and teachable and they made good progress.

Valeria A. Johnson taught the first term in No. 6 and Miss Bessie C. Watkins the second. Miss Johnson is a good scholar but lacks animation and method; but the school was small and scholars well disposed, and she had no difficulty in giving good satisfaction. Miss Watkins was a beginner but she carefully felt her way along and it is thought she made a good record. Miss Johnson's part of the register was very faulty, in fact, portions of it were not made out at all. This negligence calls for unqualified animadversion, inasmuch as her attention was particularly called to the matter at the beginning of her school. If this dereliction had been known in season she would not have been pressed for her services.

Miss Nellie E. Allen was persuaded to again take up her abode on Derry Hill the past summer to sweeten the solitude of two little girls, one aged nine and the other seven. This school has lost $33\frac{1}{3}$ percent of its pupils the past year. Miss Allen did not report whether she had time or not to hear all the daily recitations but the presumption is she did, for the little ones appeared to have been well drilled. On leaving the old house at our last visit we took a lingering look, and could not but think how many had graduated from that old structure, (believing at the time) that the old house was very near the centre of the universe, and, also, those old walls, probably would never again reverberate the

childrens piping voices uttering A's, B's, C's, or Ba, Be, Bi, Bo, Bu. Many are the Democracies that have risen and fallen. Why not the Democracy on Derry Hill?

The school on Carpenter's Hill is a very pleasant one. It is made up from a few patrons, and numbers about a dozen bright scholars, who are very teachable and eager to learn. When visited last by the committee the recitations were comparatively good, and bore evidence of having received faithful instruction by their teacher Miss Hattie U. Emerson. One pleasing feature was the genuine attachment the pupils seemingly had for the one who had taught them. On the whole the school was a success.

Miss Frances E. Jennison taught the school successfully in district No. 9. The school was small and the scholars young; but the progress made during the summer in the school was far better than it has been for several seasons.

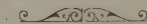
A lady from Keene, Miss Willson, taught in No. 10. This school was visited near its close and presented an abominable appearance. The pupils appeared not to have given very close attention to any other study than arithmetic, by their recitations. In this branch they appeared to have been well and faithfully drilled; quite a large class was called to the board and the scholars wrought out some very difficult problems successfully and understandingly. As far as known to us, the teacher did fairly well.

When Miss Cora M. Johnson was examined for district No. 11, she was found to be a clear headed scholar for one of her age, but experience was wanting. She commenced her school and for some two or three weeks she failed to get the hang of the school house, but after she found what was expected of her, her mental vision became more clear and the school went prospering through the season. At the close her school made a fine exhibit. Her services ought to have been secured for the winter.

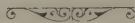
Miss Addie Morse in No. 12 sustained her former good reputation. She is a faithful, deserving and energetic teacher.

Mrs. Jennie C. Stevens had charge of half a dozen or more pupils in No. 13. She did as well as could be expected under all the circumstances and surroundings. The school-room needs but one look to guess at what is meant by the foregoing remarks.

Miss Alice E. Shaw taught the first term in No. 14, with moderate success. It is thought school teaching is not her favorite pursuit, but why not sacrifice something for the public good? We were favorably disappointed in the success of Miss Etta Aldrich who taught the fall term, inasmuch as her school in No. 4 was almost a failure. By the appearance of her school in 14 she must have had method and worked industriously and faithfully.



GENERAL REMARKS



Another school year has told its tale, and under the instruction of such teachers as have been employed, a fair degree of progress has been made.

Comparatively very little friction has occurred between teachers and pupils. A slight disturbance, however, occurred in district No. 2, between Mr. Reed, one of the teachers on one side, and some of the pupils and their parents on the other. Both parties, it is thought, were aggressive. They held themselves in a belligerent attitude a few days, when they thought discretion to be the better part of valor, and then cooled off.

In this town, as early as 1768, the settlers began to make provision for the education of their children by raising money

and appropriating it for that purpose. In 1771 the town built three school houses and established three school districts, not incorporated, one in our village, one at Cold River and one in the Valley. It is inferred that the above named places were then the most popular places in town, and by this means one can trace the drift of the settlement in different parts of the town.

In 1778 the town raised and appropriated the sum of one hundred pounds for schooling purposes. The town had then a population of more than seven hundred, and the settlers then being young, with large families, it is inferred by comparison that the number of those who attended school, must have been at least two hundred, nearly one-half as many as we now have. From the last mentioned date, the town has increased its appropriations from time to time for schooling purposes, till now, more than \$4,000 is used for schooling yearly.

The school district system was established at the same time the early settlements were made throughout all the New England states and have attained a foothold in many early settled Northern states. The school district, by itself, approaches the nearest to a pure Democracy of any government in America. The district school, kept in the old red school houses, have long been cherished as the bulwarks of our American government. Thousands of the youth of New England have gone forth to battle with this cold world, who have left their foot-prints in the annals of history which generations of time will not efface; and who in their retrospect of life will fondly recall their minature *Alma Mater*, and the rustic school house as the place where they first learned to lisp A B C, and, also, the place where they received all their educational advantages. But, in the coming year there is to be a new "cut and deal". District boundary lines are to be obliterated and all the Democracies which have so long been held in veneration will noiselessly glide into the historic past.

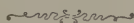
Many of the suggestions that have been made in the school reports in past years have been adopted by the schools and faithfully carried out to the benefit of the schools, while others have been laid aside like a last year's almanac, and never more thought about.

It would be superogation on the part of the committee, at this time to recommend what should be done the coming year, or what should not, only in a general way. It will not be a pleasant task to perform for those persons in this state who have school matters in charge. These custodians of schools and school funds, should be men of ability, integrity and without sectarian bias. They should be men who can, not only provide for the immediate wants of communities, but prospective ones; and, last but not least, they should not be policy men, but men who will do their duty fearlessly. The paramount object of the new law is, to provide a way by which scholars in sparsely settled communities can be provided with the same number of weeks instruction that those have in more populous centers. Under the new law there will be a less number of school houses but larger schools, consequently there will be more emulation among the pupils, and the schools also will be served by better teachers. The new law will do away with nepotism that has created so many feuds in school districts. Many of these district quarrels have arisen from the act of the prudential committee in hiring some nephew, neice or fourth cousin of theirs to teach. For some unaccountable reason, in such cases, the poor teachers are targets for the vanquished to shoot at, and after enduring the lash from the tongues of toothless old grannies, and crank spinsters of no age, through a winter, if the teachers do not leave, confirmed dyspeptics, they are marvels of endurance.

School children would soon be imbued with the feelings of their parents and array themselves in hostility against each other, making a cross-road, brook or goose pond between the picket line of demarcation. The new order of pro-

cedure will do away with such baneful influences, and create better feelings in little communities. So far, it would seem that the new order of things must work beneficially, but whether financially considered it will be a success or not, cannot now be determined. We have the law and must abide by it at present, whether good or bad, and the only way suggested for good citizens is to act wisely and keep cool.

GEO. ALDRICH,	}	Superintending School Committee.
ALVIN DWINNELL,		



Winter Schools.

There were eleven winter schools, of which the junior member of the Superintending Committee had the immediate oversight. Five of these commenced Nov. 30th ; five Dec. 7th ; and one Dec. 14th.

In district No. 2, Misses Riley and Phelps, who had charge of the primary and middle schools, during the summer and fall, were retained for the winter term. Both of these teachers are well qualified for their positions, and their work was entirely satisfactory to your committee. There are many very bright scholars in their schools, and their attainments show that they have received thorough training.

Mr. Fred J. Reed, had charge of the high school. This was his first experience as a teacher, and his success was not equal to our expectations. We found Mr. Reed to be a good scholar and his methods of instruction excellent; but he unfortunately lacked the necessary tact to govern the school easily and completely, and, at the same time, to win the respect and good will of the pupils. He succeeded in maintaining order in school, but he made some enemies and many of his scholars left him before the close of the term.

During the last visit of your committee, only fourteen scholars were present. It is undeniable that this is a hard school to manage, and it is probable that the parents of the pupils are in some degree responsible for the unsatisfactory state of things which has been obtained in it this winter ; but we feel assured that if the teacher had possessed a better knowledge of human nature, the results of his really earnest labors would have been widely different.

No. 3. Warren M. Davis, a fair scholar, but an inexperienced boy of 17 years, was placed over the school in this district. Contrary to the expectations of himself and of the prudential committee, he had several scholars—mischievous but not really bad boys—of an age equal to or greater than his own. It soon became evident that he was unable to properly govern the school, and after about four weeks of disorder a change was found advisable. Charles Fisher was employed to finish the term, which he did with his usual success.

No. 4 Miss Fanny E. Jennison, who has taught several terms in other parts of the town, had charge of the winter school in this district. She had fourteen scholars, some of whom, for their ages, are well advanced. The school was orderly, and a good degree of interest in their studies was manifested by all the pupils.

No. 5. This school was taught by Mrs. Jennie B. Foster, who is too well known as a successful teacher to need special commendation here.

No. 9. A term of six weeks was taught in this district by Miss Etta M. Aldrich. Your committee was unable to visit the school but once, but it is thought the teacher labored faithfully, and, considering the length of the term, with a good degree of success.

No. 10. Fourteen scholars in this district were taught by Miss Sara E Phelps of Marlow. Miss Phelps is an experienced and thorough teacher, and her school was one of the best in town.


No. 11. Miss Katie Wheeler of Bethel, Vt., taught in this district. This was her first attempt at teaching, and, considering the character of the school, she succeeded very well. The school was small, but there were several large boys who needed an older and more experienced teacher.

No. 12. The school in this district was made up of ten scholars, the most of whom were quite small. Mr. Thomas C. Sparhawk commenced the school, but about the middle of the term he turned it over to his wife and accepted a business situation in Winchendon. Both Mr. and Mrs. Sparhawk are experienced teachers, and their management of the school was satisfactory.

No. 14. The winter school in this district was placed under the charge of Miss Jennie E. Cutler of Keene. Miss Cutler had taught some four terms before, though this was her first term in this town. She is a graduate of the Keene high school, and her attainments are fair. It is thought the scholars made some progress in their studies, but they are bright enough to have easily done much better than they did. When first visited by your committee the school seemed to be doing well; when visited the second time, its appearance was less satisfactory. The chief apparent trouble with the school was a lack of order.

REPORT OF Superintending School Committee.

Of District No. 1, For the year ending March 1, 1886.



The committee respectfully submit the following report:

They have given considerable attention to the grading of the three schools under their supervision, a matter recommended in last year's report.

Grading by properly distributing the work among the teachers of all the schools, aids in securing to each of the pupils his just proportion of the teacher's attention. By perfecting the classification of the scholars, it enlarges the membership of each class, but reduces the number of the classes; and then more time can be given to each study and more attention to class drill, an advantage to each pupil. It also stimulates the ambition of both the pupil and the teacher. The former are anxious to reach the limit required by the curriculum, and which their fellow pupils have been able to attain, the latter wishing to emulate the fidelity and ability which has led previous classes to the same mark.

Because of all this, a graded system admits of addition to the number of studies for the period usually allotted for the course. It permits the largest amount of thorough work distributed in just proportion to the greatest number. Thus the greatest amount of value is received by the town for the expenditure made.

This grading of the schools, necessitated first of all the careful arrangement of a schedule of studies for all the schools. Such a schedule must at the outset be merely

provisional, in view of the fact that so many modifying elements appear as the plan is applied. For instance, the varying capabilities of the pupils in each class, and variations in classes from year to year, the number of studies any one pupil can properly attend to, and the fact that many of the pupils are present only during the winter term.

Grading demands that each study be carefully placed at its proper stage in the whole course of the three schools, and so a wise limitation of the advance required in each study for each term, lest work that belongs to a lower should be carried to upper grades, and tread upon valuable time demanded for other work.

To strike the proper balance in this matter is a difficult thing to do. It requires wisdom and experience, and close as well as long operation of the working of the provisional system in our schools. It will take some years to perfect the schedule and bring the system into full operation.

Our first effort rendered it necessary to push some of the studies we found, back into the lower schools; as for instance placing the commencement of the study of Grammar and of U. S. History in the intermediate course. Here some difficulty has occurred in adjusting the scholars to the new system. A difficulty which will however soon be obviated.

Grading renders necessary that admission from a lower to a higher school, if not from a lower to a higher class, be conditioned upon an examination. This prevents the inefficient and the lazy from passing to grades, where the teacher in order to supply the deficiencies in previous studies is compelled to take time and attention belonging to the regular study, and so does great injustice to the proficient pupils, taking time that really belongs to them, and clogging their progress.

It is this element in the graded system, the examination, which serves as a healthy stimulus to the ambition of both pupil and teacher. Good results appeared immediately, when these examinations were inaugurated, and the faithful

continuance of these examinations in the future are absolutely necessary to the success of the system.

Another and very thorough examination of all the classes in the school was made at the end of the year, and revealed excellent work on the part of the teachers. Good results were not however so palpable in the intermediate school. The committee however recognize the fact that the teacher had in addition to the usual allotment of pupils, the care for two terms, of the class, which in regular course should have passed into the high school, but was temporarily held back; and beside this the additional studies of Grammar and U. S. History. The difficulties of this year, it is expected will not be repeated for this school another year.

We recommend all the teachers for re-election.

The committee desire to urge upon the attention of the teachers, the importance of inculcating a proper respect for the school buildings, and strictly forbidding roughness in the rooms or passage ways, and enjoining care for the neatness of both. They also request that the teachers to demand a respectful behavior toward themselves and toward the other pupils. This will require the suppression of noious behavior. The teachers are justly held responsible, in part at least, for the manners of their scholars.

It is hoped that whether the schools remain in the care of the district, or are passed over to the town, a sufficient appropriation will soon be made to place them in proper repair. Their present condition is a reproach to the district.

It seems also very important that a set of rules and regulations for teacher, pupil, and janitor be made. They should include directions as to ventilation, discipline, books for the desk, etc., and regulations concerning contagious diseases, besides defining the duties of the janitor. Such rules and regulations are, I understand, extant. They should be revived, revised, republished, framed, and placed in a prominent place in all the schools.

C. R. CROWELL,	}	Supt. Com. for
WILLIAM. H. TEEL,		Dist. No. 1.

Table No. 1. Summer Schools.

DISTRICTS.		Length of school in weeks.	Wages Female teachers per mo.	Wages of Male teachers per mo.	No. of Scholars.	Per cent of attendance.	Average attendan ^{ce} .	Visits of Com.	Visits of citizens
2	Grammar.	22	00.00	48.00	45	73	2.2	4	50
2	Int'mediate.	22	40.00		35	78	2.8	4	43
2	Primary.	22	31.00		48	88	4.3	4	32
3		20	20.00		9	90	7.5	4	29
4		17	21.00		12	94	10.0	4	65
5		19	20.60		15	97	10.5	4	39
6		23	20.00		7	90	5.4	4	36
7		21	23.00		2	100	2.0	4	20
8		23	22.66		11	90	9.0	4	33
9		22	22.00		10	84	7.0	4	15
10		16	20.00		10	92	9.0	4	35
11	No Register.								
12		17	23.00		13	90	1.0	3	21
13		25	22.00		13	85	8.0	4	28
14		16	24.00		15	97	13.5	4	39

Table No. 2. Winter Schools.

DISTRICTS.	Length of school in weeks.	Wages of Female teachers per month.	Wages of Male teachers per month.	No. of Scholars.	Per cent of attendance.	Average attendance.	Visits of Committee.	Visits of Citizens.
2 Grammar.	11		48.00	37	83	20	2	6
2 Int'mediate.	11	36.00		34	86	26	2	16
2 Primary.	11	36.00	0	41	84	38	2	14
3	12		20.00	17	90	9	4	15
4	12	25.00	0	15	98	14	2	55
5	12	28.00	0	13	95	10	2	25
9	6	22.00	0	10	88	7	1	15
10	12	25.00	0	14	90	13	2	28
11 No Register								
12	12	24.00	0	10	90	9	2	16
14	12	28.00	0	15	94	14	2	14



Table of District No. 1. 1885-6.

	SPRING TERM.			FALL TERM.			WINTER TERM.		
	High School.	Intermediate.	Primary.	High School.	Intermediate.	Primary.	High School.	Intermediate.	Primary.
Length of School in weeks,	10	10	10	11	11	11	14	14	14
Wages of Male Teachers per month,	72	36	32	72	40	32	72	40	32
Number of scholars over four years old,	23	40	52	37	29	48	42	29	41
Average daily attendance,	19	33	35	29	23	38	33	24	36
Percentage of daily attendance,	.83	.91	.875	.78	.85	.88	.79	.83	.88
Number not absent,	3	9	10	4	3	6	9	3	8
Number not absent or tardy,	3	9	10	3	2	6	6	3	7
Number of visits by Superintending Committee,	6	5	1	2	3	2	6	3	2
Number of visits by Prudential Committee,	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Number of visits by others,	24	34	41	22	66	40	18	30	30